# SEARO

## Charter On Health Development

**Presented by :**

Mohan Sapkota and Niraj Sah
BPH 3rd Semester (4th Batch)
Madhesh Institute of Health Sciences

# CONTENTS


01 Introduction

SEARO: Charter On Health Development

02 Functions

03 Activities Of WHO In South East Asia :

04 Health Promotion Strategic Actions for South-East Asia :

0

# Introduction

**SEARO : Charter On Health Development**

# Introduction

- The South-East Asia Region of the World Health Organization, established in 1948, was the first of its six regions.

- The original five members of the South-East Asia Region were: ***Afghanistan, Burma, Ceylon (Sri Lanka), India and Siam (Thailand)***.

- These countries had signified their consent at the First World Health Assembly in 1948 to join the South-East Asia Region when it was established.

- **The World Health Assembly is the governing body of South-East Asia Region Office.**

- **The World Health Assembly is held usually in Geneva, in May each year, and is attended by delegations from all Member States.**

- **The Regional Office for WHO South-East Asia is in New Delhi, India and Saima Wazed (Daughter of Sekh Hashina) is the Regional Director Since Feb. 1 2024 ( She is from Bangladesh)**

- The Kingdom of Nepal became a member of the World Health Organization on 2nd September 1953 and was formally included in the South-East Asia Region by a resolution of the World Health Assembly in 1953.

- Currently, there are eleven member states in the WHO South-East Asia Region. They are : Bangladesh, Bhutan, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, India, Indonesia, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Timor Leste

| Countries | Date of Entry |
|---|---|
| Bangladesh | 19 May, 1972 |
| Bhutan | 8 March, 1982 |
| Democratic People's Republic of Korea | 19 May, 1973 |
| India | 12 January, 1948 |
| Indonesia | 23 May, 1950 |
| Maldives | 5 November, 1965 |
| Myanmar | 1 July, 1948 |
| Nepal | 2 September, 1953 |
| Sri Lanka | 7 July, 1948 |
| Thailand | 26 September, 1947 |
| Timor-Leste | 27 September, 2002 |

# Home to a quarter of the world population, WHO SEARO

- WHO provides leadership on health matters.
- It promotes evidence-based policy options.
- Offers technical support to countries.
- Monitors and analyzes health trends.
- Collaborates to improve regional health outcomes.

# Key achievements:

- ✓ Eradication of smallpox
- ✓ Increased life expectancy
- ✓ Reduced infant and maternal mortality

WHO South-East Asia Region focuses on inclusive health gains aligned with Flagship Priority Areas.

# Flagship Priority Aress

- Eliminating Measles and controlling Rubella
- Reducing Maternal Mortality, Under 5 yrs Mortality and Neonatal Mortality
- Achieving Universal Health Coverage (Health for all)
- Finishing off key neglected tropical diseases
- Fortifying emergency risk management
- Combating antimicrobial resistance
- Reversing the NCDs epidemic (Chronic kidney disease, Cancer, Cardiovascular diseases, Diabetes)

0

# Functions

**SEARO**

# Functions :-

1. Act as the directing and coordinating authority on international health work.
2. Collaborate with the UN, specialized agencies, governments, and professional groups.
3. Assist governments in strengthening health services upon request.
4. Provide technical assistance and emergency aid when needed.
5. Promote prevention of accidental injuries with relevant agencies.
6. Encourage cooperation among scientific and professional health groups.
7. Improve standards in health and medical education and training.
8. Offer health-related information, advice, and support.
9. Promote and conduct health research.
10. Support maternal and child health and adaptation to changing environments.

03

# ACTIVITIES of WHO

## in South-East Asia

# Activities Of WHO In South - East Asia :

1. Communicable Diseases – TB, HIV/AIDS, malaria, dengue, etc.
2. Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) – diabetes, cancer, heart disease, etc.
3. Health Emergencies & Preparedness – disaster response, outbreaks (like COVID-19).
4. Maternal and Child Health
5. Nutrition and Food Safety
6. Environmental and Occupational Health
7. Immunization
8. Health Systems Strengthening – improving healthcare access and infrastructure.
9. Mental Health and Substance Use
10. Universal Health Coverage (UHC)

# Timeline of SEARO

- **1948 – WHO SEARO established as one of the six WHO regional offices.**
- **1950s – Initiated malaria eradication programs and smallpox surveillance.**
- **1975 – Smallpox eradicated from South-East Asia (India was one of the last countries with cases)**
- **1980s – Focused on Expanded Program on Immunization (EPI) and maternal-child health services.**
- **1991 – Initiated polio eradication campaign in the region.**
- **2000 – Launch of TB-DOTS strategy across the region.**
- **2005 – Adoption of the International Health Regulations (IHR).**
- **2012 – Maternal and neonatal tetanus eliminated from the region.**
- **2014 – SEARO declared polio-free by WHO.**
- **2016 – Sri Lanka declared malaria-free.**
- **2017 – Maldives and Sri Lanka achieved measles elimination.**
- **2019 – Bangladesh and Bhutan also achieved measles elimination.**
- **2020 – Strong COVID-19 response coordination across member states.**
- **2023 – WHO SEARO launched the South-East Asia Regional Roadmap for Health Emergency Preparedness.**

# Major Highlighted Activities
# :

- **Health Promotion: Sustainable Prevention**
- **Building healthy public policy**
- **Creating supportive Environment**
- **Developing personal skills**
- **Strengthening community action**
- **Reorienting health services**
- **Health in All Policies (HiAP)**
- **Healthy Settings**
- **Health Equity and Social Determinants of Health in South-East Asia Region**

04

# Health Promotion Strategic action for South East Asia

# Health Promotion Strategic Actions for South-East Asia :

- Establish and maintain infrastructure for multisectoral health promotion.
- Build national capacity for effective health promotion.
- Implement health-promoting laws, policies, and regulations.
- Support a political and economic environment for multisectoral partnerships.
- Develop evidence-based systems to monitor health promotion efforts and investments.
- Promote social mobilization and advocacy across

# SEARO's strategic timelines:

1. By 2025:
   - ✓ End TB epidemic.
   - ✓ Achieve Universal Health Coverage (UHC).
   - ✓ Eliminate certain Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs).
2. By 2030:
   - ✓ 25% reduction in premature NCD deaths.
   - ✓ Malaria elimination in select countries.
   - ✓ Improve maternal and child health.
3. By 2040:
   - ✓ Full malaria elimination across Southeast Asia.
   - ✓ Strengthen health systems.
4. Ongoing:
   - ✓ Develop health workforce.
   - ✓ Address climate change impacts on health.

WHO SEARO Strategic Timeline by Focus Area
Mental Health Framework
2023
2030
UHC Strategy
2023
2027
Accelerated TB Plan
2023
2025
Emergency Preparedness Plan
2022
2026
IA2030 - Immunization Agenda
2021
2030
RMNCH+A Strategy
2021
2025
NCD Multisectoral Plan
2021
2025
Health & Environment Strategy
2020
2030
COVID-19 Regional Response
2020
2021
Health Workforce Strengthening
2019
2023
End TB Strategic Plan
2017
2025
ENAP - Every Newborn Action Plan
2014
2020
GVAP - Global Vaccine Action Plan
2014
2020
NCD Action Plan
2013
2020
2012.5
2015.0
2017.5
2020.0
2022.5
2025.0
2027.5
2030.0
Year

## SEARO – WHO South-East Asia Region

**Established: 1948 Headquarters: New Delhi, India**

**Current Members: 11 countries including Nepal (joined in 1953)**

**Regional Director (2024): Saima Wazed (Bangladesh)**

- **Key Functions:**
  - ✓ Coordinate international health efforts
  - ✓ Provide technical support and emergency aid
  - ✓ Promote health research, education, and policies
  - ✓ Support maternal, child, and mental health

- **Focus Areas:**

•Communicable Diseases: TB, HIV, malaria

**Flagship Priorities:**

•Eliminate measles, rubella, and neglected tropical diseases
•Reduce maternal, child, and neonatal mortality
•Combat antimicrobial resistance & NCDs
•Achieve Universal Health Coverage (UHC)
•Eliminate tuberculosis

**Strategic Goals:**

•By 2025: End TB, achieve UHC
•By 2030: Cut NCD deaths by 25%, malaria elimination
•By 2040: Full malaria elimination, stronger health systems
•Ongoing: Tackle climate change & health challenges

# References :-


- **World Health Organization, Regional Office for South-East Asia. (2008). http://www.searo.who.int/entity/healthpromotion/en/**

# Please! Give us Feedbac

# THANK YOU

**FOR YOUR ATTENTION**